

CLAIMS

1. An assembly (1) for masking an air-bag (3) for a motor vehicle, the assembly being of the type comprising:

- outer trim (4) presenting a line (7) of weakness

5 which defines:

- a flap (9) overlying the air-bag; and

- a peripheral region (10) surrounding the flap and serving, after the flap has moved, to define an opening for passing the air-bag during its deployment;

10 - a first reinforcing member (12) for reinforcing the peripheral region (10), the first reinforcing member comprising at least one wall (20, 22) for guiding the air-bag (3) upstream from the opening and during deployment thereof;

15 - a second reinforcing member (13) for reinforcing the flap; and

- a hinge (14) connecting together the first reinforcing member and the second reinforcing member so as to allow the flap (9) to tilt and so as to retain it after the masking assembly has been ruptured along the line of weakness;

20 the assembly being characterized in that the second reinforcing member (13) and the hinge (14) are made by molding a plastics material, and in that the hinge (14) is overmolded on the first reinforcing member (12).

25 2. An assembly according to claim 1, characterized in that the plastics material of the second reinforcing member (13) and of the hinge (14) possesses elongation prior to rupture of more than 500%.

30 3. An assembly according to any preceding claim, characterized in that the first reinforcing member (13) includes portions in relief (26) for connecting the hinge (14).

4. An assembly according to any preceding claim, characterized in that the hinge (14) includes a retaining lip (36) surrounding an edge (38) of the first reinforcing member (12).

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5. An assembly according to any preceding claim, characterized in that the guide wall(s) extend(s) over at least two sides of the deployment direction (D) of the air-bag (3) so as to form a guide channel (18).

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6. An assembly according to claim 5, characterized in that the guide channel (18) extends over substantially the entire perimeter of the through opening for the air-bag (3).

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7. An assembly according to any preceding claim, characterized in that the hinge (14) includes at least one fold (32).

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8. An assembly according to any preceding claim, characterized in that it constitutes at least a dashboard (1) for a motor vehicle.

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9. A method of making a masking assembly according to any preceding claim, the method being characterized in that it includes a step of overmolding a plastics material onto the first reinforcing member (12) to form the hinge (14) and the second reinforcing member (13), and to connect them to the first reinforcing member (12).

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10. A method according to claim 9, characterized in that it includes a step of fastening the first reinforcing member (12) and the second reinforcing member (13) to the trim (4) that has previously been prepared.